

Hi, and welcome to [Sandra Lawson Interiors](http://www.sandralawsoninteriors.co.uk) Spring News.

With yet another hard winter coming to a much longed for end, we humans (in common with our fellow mammals) turn our thoughts to nest building. Thankfully we don't have to build a new home each year but often do get the urge to give the "old" nest a spruce up.

I hope that the following will inspire you in your Spring Interior Project.....



From this years design shows new interior trends and ranges have styles to suit all and, with have colour palettes in common, many perfect for spring and summer decor. Colours fitting the spring theme include sky blues, fresh grass greens, oranges and deep indigo (think evening skies at sunset). Summer shades (and bold floral patterns) reflect garden blooms and suggest exotic far off travel destinations. Think berry and spice colours with metallics of gold and bronzes.

For background (wall) colours choose deep creams and taupes for a softer look, or white and pale greys for a crisp, contemporary styling which will see you through all the seasons. These shades however are also the perfect backdrop for the Beach House look for the summer season. Introduce this to a room which leads out onto the patio, balcony or garden to make this most of our short summer.



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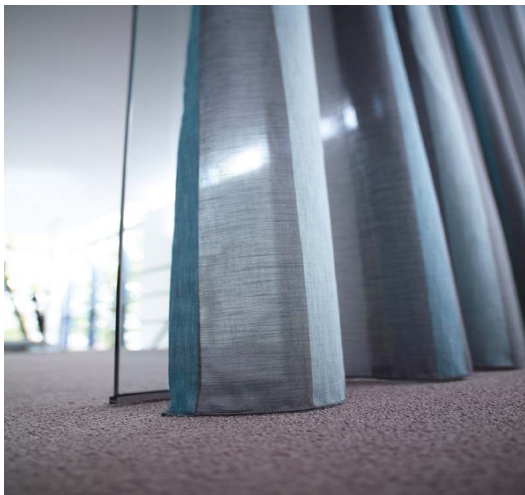
Floors of bleached or white painted boards are the classic basic for the beach house look, but striped floors with added stripe cotton rugs will do just as well (giving the perfect opportunity to have wool rugs cleaned to relay over winter). Alternatively just lift your winter rugs and have bare floors for the warm spring and summer months.

Adding cream cotton throws, or loose covers in cotton ticking, will give your sofas and chairs a light, airy look. New loose covers in washable cotton allow pales shades of fabrics to be used on everyday sofas and chairs – either just for a summer season, or all year round with cosy throws.

My good friend and all-round sewing wonder Jackie Holt is a dab-hand at making “new frocks” (as she terms it) for sofas and armchairs and I have many lovely washable cottons for you to choose from. Add a few cushions in cotton stripes or ticking to your upholstery and arrange flowers in blue and white ceramic jugs or vases to complete the look.

In south or west facing rooms however the sun is not always welcome as it fades and bleaches furniture and furnishings. The heat build-up can also make the room difficult to inhabit for hours in each day. Here again loose covers and throws will help to protect upholstery but another solution is to consider roller blinds to stop the heat, glare and bleaching. Once in situ the blinds will also give you that extra layer against the winter cold so the cost will be quickly recouped.

I have a great choice of blinds and fabrics from Silent Gliss or Luxaflex and the experienced fitter to install all required quickly. A plain cotton in a soft white shade is the most popular choice to blend with other decor but you could also consider voile curtains as an all-year or just seasonal option.



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Early summer is a great time to take down heavy drapes for cleaning. While they are down use the opportunity to have them interlined for the following winter. Check the linings for signs of rotting too – new linings will give your curtains many more years of service. Jackie the “sewing wonder” can do all of this for you while you sit in the sun!!

If spring also brings on a fit of the DIYs then why not try your hand at papering a feature wall in your lounge, dining or bedroom? Many papers are available as “paste-the-wall” for the wallpapering novice. I have a great selection of wallpaper pattern books to show you. A feature wall is ideal affordable way to get your room the latest styling for the cost of just three or four rolls of paper. With one wall you keep up with the trend for bold or floral designs and keep the rest of the room plain.

If you want the look without the effort, I have decorators to recommend to you. If you feel confident to tackle the work, but are struggling to choose the wallpaper or design scheme, I can help you there. This spring I am offering a special home consultation rate of £50 per room (or £90 for two) within any EH postcode. I will visit you in your home, discuss your requirements and follow up with a colour scheme of paint, wallpaper and fabric recommendations for the room(s) concerned, giving you a decor plan to get the perfect result.

Finally of course we also look beyond our interiors out into the garden, patio or balcony to make the most of the summer. Drag out the garden furniture and wash it down for that alfresco G & T! Why not give your garden bench or table and chairs a new look with washable cotton covers? Choose from my ranges of washable cottons (or fabrics designed for luxury yacht upholstery) and get the aforementioned Jackie-the-sewing-wonder to make covers that will give your neighbours a fit of envy and brighten up your summer furniture! This year a range of plastic-coated fabrics in a rainbow of colours is available with matching plain cottons to make your alfresco table settings *tres chic*.

So that is spring and summer sorted- inside and out! Enjoy!



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